



Department of
**Commerce &
Insurance**

Consumer Affairs



Consumer Affairs Update

Help us spread the word to Tennesseans about current scams, how to avoid unfair or deceptive business practices, and where to find consumer resources. We encourage you to share this newsletter with your family and friends by using the sharing options at the bottom of this email.

Consumer Central



On the Move? Look Out for Rental and Moving Scams

IF YOU'RE RENTING:

Rental scammers prey on prospective renters by promising a great deal on a property that actually isn't for rent or doesn't exist at all. Before you rent, remember:

- **Visit the rental property.** If you're trying to rent a property but the "landlord" won't allow you to visit or inspect the property, there's a very good chance you're dealing with a scammer. Rental scammers advertise properties that they don't have actual access to or even own. If they won't let you visit the property you want to rent, walk away before they take your money.

IF YOU'RE MOVING:

Fraudulent movers use several tactics to swindle you out of getting what you pay for. What can you do before you move?

- Vet your choices by checking a moving company's reviews and complaint history on the websites of the [Better Business Bureau](#) and the [American Moving & Storage Association](#).
- Be wary of a company that has no address and no information about a mover's registration or insurance.

If you feel you've been treated unfairly by a moving company, file a complaint with TDCI's Division of Consumer Affairs at tn.gov/consumer. Moving scams can also be reported to the [Federal Trade Commission](#) and the [Better Business Bureau](#).

[Read More](#)



Beware of "Splash and Dash" Salespeople

Warm weather has settled in for summer and we're warning Tennesseans of "splash and dash" salespeople that can surface during the summer maintenance season. View our video above to learn how to avoid these types of scammers. To verify a license, click the link below.

[Verify](#)



Don't Let Scammers Spoil Summer Vacation Plans

The Division urges consumers to be on the lookout for scammers and identity thieves who target summer travelers.

- Check for signs of tampering and card skimmers on ATMs, gas pumps, and stand alone-pay stalls.
- If you're looking to use a travel agent, research the company or agent you're looking to use. Read reviews and make sure you're comfortable that they're a trusted entity.
- Be cautious of offers that seem unrealistically low. Out-of-the-blue or advertised offers to pay \$400 for a trip valued at \$4,000 may be a scam.

For more information and tips to help avoid travel scams, click the link below.

[More](#)

What's New



Downloadable Teacher Resources

From a Jeopardy-style game show to educational posters, the division has created resources to promote consumer education in classrooms and community learning centers across the state.

[View](#)

Did You Know?



New Consumer Protection Laws Go Into Effect July 1

Do you know what new consumer protection laws were passed in Tennessee this year? Get caught up on which laws went into effect on July 1.

[More](#)

Scams, Schemes & Swindles



Job Scams

Have you posted your resume or created an account with a job site lately? You may be at risk for being targeted by scammers. Make sure your potential new job is going to make you money not take your money. For details about this scam, tips to avoid it, and what to do if you're a victim of this scam, click the link below.

[Details](#)

The Tennessee Division of Consumer Affairs is the coordinating agency for consumer complaints. If a consumer feels that they have been treated deceptively or unfairly by a business operating in Tennessee, they can visit the Division of Consumer Affairs at tn.gov/consumer or call (615) 741-4737 for more information about how we can help.

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